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PATENT 7-/2-0

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: P. A. Billing-Medel, et al.

Serial No.: 09/092,296

Filed: June 5, 1998

For: POLYNUCLEOTIDES USEFUL

FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF

THE LUNG

Examiner: G. Nickol

Group Art Unit: 1642

Attorney Docket No.: 6104.US.01

Date: June 27, 2001

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Box Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated December 27, 2000. Claims 1-6, 11, 12, 14 and 16-34 are currently under examination. A three-month extension of time accompanies this response, extending the time to respond from March 18, 2001 to June 18, 2001.